GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2369
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2006
OPEN SKY POLICY
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether in order to clear peak winter travel rush Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has moved a proposal for open sky policy for a limited period;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this policy has been followed by the Government for the last five years for a limited period;

(d) if so, whether this time the Government is going to limit this option only for middle east and far east countries;

(e) if so, the reasons for not allowing open sky policy on other routes;

(f) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken; and

(g) the total excess flight period during the open sky period during the last year?

Answer

- MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) and (b): Yes, Sir. To take care of the additional traffic demand during the peak winter season, a limited open sky policy has been declared by the Government for the period 15th December, 2006 to 31st January, 2007. Under this policy, all designated foreign airlines are permitted to mount as many services as they wish to their available points of call. Besides, they are also permitted to upgrade their equipment at their discretion on their existing frequencies during the period 15th November, 2006 to 28th February, 2007.

(c): Yes, Sir.

(d): No, Sir.

(e): Does not arise.

(f): The decision has already been announced.

(g): During the last year a limited open sky policy was declared under which designated foreign airlines were offered to mount additional flights from 1st December, 2005 to 31st January, 2006 and they had been permitted to upgrade the equipment on their existing frequencies from 1st November, 2005 to 31st March, 2006.